

Clarke Courier

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Clarke College, Dubuque, Iowa

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Residents Move Back to Mary Ben

by JOHN SULLIVAN

The second and third floor west wings in Mary Benedict will be reopened next semester and, reluctantly or not, students will be moving into them. The rooms were not occupied this semester because of the possibility of bricks falling off the exterior of the building and bouncing into one of the rooms. Administrators did not know what types of repairs were necessary and whether the rooms could be occupied.

cupied while the repairs were taking place. Because of the danger about 80 residents moved into alternate rooms, according to Martha Degree, Acting Director of Residence Life. Degree also stated that about 60 students will be moving into Mary Benedict after Christmas break, when protective screens are installed on the windows.

Some Mary Benedict residents are now living on the fourth and second floors of Mary Josita, and in Mary

Frances Hall. For those living on fourth floor it was an all or none decision to move back, according to Degree. Those on second floor and in Mary Frances are given the option of staying or moving second semester. A meeting was held for the fourth floor residents, and a vote was taken on whether or not to move to Mary Benedict, and the majority wanted to move.

Some of the fourth floor residents are unhappy because it was not

clear that a vote would be taken at the meeting.

"We're trying to meet as many needs as possible," said Dean of Student Development Pat Conlon, explaining that many variables and considerations are involved with the housing assignments: the number of incoming students, the number of incoming males, as well as the number of students who will be leaving at the end of this semester. There were several legal and financial

considerations affecting the situation: the construction company that built the residence has gone out of business and another insurance company now underwrites the building. A number of engineers have to be consulted about the safety of the building.

The screens will be installed over the Christmas break to insure safety and cost will be approximately \$5,000.

Schlesier Creates New Avenues of Art with Airbrush

In Doug Schlesier's attempt to find art, he has created new avenues

with the airbrush. Schlesier's exhibit, shown in Gallery 1550

provided testimony to his expertise. "I see them more as drawings



Associate professor of art, Doug Schlesier poses beside his self-portrait on display in Gallery 1550.

Clarke/Loras Singers tour Japan

by TAMMY HUTSON

Clarke students Mari Yakota and Yuka Yamamoto will be taking 29 other students "home" with them during Christmas break.

They are members of the Clarke/Loras Singers and "home" for them is Japan.

The Clarke/Loras Singers, which is celebrating its 15th anniversary, is giving five concerts during its tour of Japan, Jan. 2-17.

Conductor John Lease has been to Japan several times. Last summer he went to Tokyo to plan the tour after the Clarke/Loras Singers received an invitation from the Tokyo Little Singers. Yakota was a member of the "Little Singers". And Clarke graduates Hisae and Saeko Yamagawa are presently involved with the Little Singers.

Lease said the singers serve as ambassadors of friendship through music. He thinks the cultural exchange is similar to the Friendship Force. Every two years he takes the choir abroad. This is their seventh trip.

The Clarke/Loras Singers have a very itinerary with plenty of time allotted for sightseeing. The first couple of days will be spent in Hong Kong. In Kyoto, Japan the travellers

will stay in a Ryokan or Japanese hotel. Here they will sleep in tatami, the Japanese style of sleeping. In Tokyo the singers will be staying with families of the Little Singers. Clarke/Loras Singers Yakota and Yuka Yamamoto will also host guests in their homes.

According to Lease the Clarke/Loras Singers will be performing a varied program in Japan.

The program includes religious motets, "Fiddler" songs, American spirituals, and folksongs. They will perform at a high mass in a cathedral, at two colleges, and in two concert halls.

The "Fiddler" cast held a benefit performance earning \$2100 for the tour. Lease said this money provided scholarships for choir members who needed it.

Peacock Retires After 22 Years at Clarke

Marge Peacock, a woman who has been in the hearts and pocketbooks of Clarke students for the past 22 years, retires today.

Peacock retired as director of student accounts to leave Dubuque's cold winters for warm sunny Florida with her husband, Ivan.

Peacock came to work for Clarke in 1961 as an assistant to Sister Justa Sheehan, BVM, in the business office. Until her appointment as director of student accounts 11 years ago, Peacock has served in the business offices doing various jobs.

As director of student accounts, Peacock became well acquainted with students. She was responsible for the billing of all student accounts

and "the window," where she offered various services, including check cashing.

"I never really thought about working any place other than here," she said. "I really like dealing with people and there are some kids who, I feel, have become real good friends."

Feelings are mutual among the students, who recognize Peacock for her firm, but friendly business manner.

"She's firm, but I really like working for her," said Hal Hayek, '84. "She's very easy to work for. She's not afraid to let you make a mistake, then she'll help you out. She's good-hearted ... She really

makes a point of knowing the kids."

Peacock says knowing her clientele has been a must in her job.

"The kids here are real individuals. Each one's situation is different," she said. Knowing the students has allowed Peacock to be more keen to their financial situations. That is more helpful, she says, when it comes to billing.

Although winters will be spent in Florida, Peacock says she will look forward to returning home to Dubuque and visiting her old friends.

"It's going to be different - retirement. But I think I'm going to like it," she says with a wide grin.

Succeeding Peacock is Jane Dusil, of Galena, Ill. Dusil joined the

student accounts office Nov. 1. She is a graduate of Mt. Mercy College, Cedar Rapids, with a bachelor's degree in business administration.



Comment

Family Shares Christmas Ideas, Presents Program

by Tammy Hutson

"Welcome to the annual Hutson Christmas program. It's nice to see so many of our friends and relatives here tonight." So begins another performance by Tim, Tammy, Teri, Tom, Tony, Ted, Traci and Tina Hutson at the Legion Hall in Dixon, Iowa.

Mom initiated the idea for a family Christmas program approximately 12 years ago because she felt that memorization was an important part of our education which was not being developed in the

classroom. In the infancy of our tradition we recited simple poems concerning the various aspects of Christmas. At the conclusion of our short program, performed at the homes of both sets of grandparents, we invited our relatives to join us in singing a favorite Christmas carol. In subsequent years Mom asked friends of the family to serve as a practice audience to help relieve our anxieties about reciting poetry.

As we grew so did the program. As the oldest daughter I began rewriting plays and stories to fit our

family size and abilities. We were not only memorizing poetry but also lines for the play. We have done a large variety of Christmas plays including "Charlie Brown Christmas," "Little Drummer Boy," "Frosty the Snowman" and "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Christmas is the celebration of Christ's birth. We have approached this idea with a range of activities including a shadowbox, live nativity scenes, readings from the Bible, and sharing a birthday cake for Baby Jesus.

As the show expanded each year,

we grew, not only physically, but also closer together as a family. As a family we shared ideas about the meaning of Christmas so we could plan an innovative Christmas presentation. During the process of selecting the material which we would work on from Thanksgiving until showtime we became more aware of each other's feelings and opinions. Everyone of us was given the opportunity to contribute to the basic structure of the show. Each of us selected a piece of poetry to recite. In this way the poem held a special message for the performer.

We found the poetry and plays in library books, magazines, and children's storybooks. The individual and family processes of selecting unique pieces to perform each year was a challenging and stimulating experience which increased our knowledge of other's inner feelings and beliefs.

Another challenging experience involved gathering eight active brothers and sisters together for a rehearsal. Once we managed to get together, rehearsals provided a chance for us to relax and be ourselves. Although we worked hard, we took time out, to act silly, to tell jokes, to kid each other, and to have a good time together. Through

rehearsing we learned to enjoy each other's company.

When showtime came around we counted on each other for moral support. Back in the Legion Kitchen, which we used as a dressing room, words of praise and congratulations were exchanged. We helped each other get ready to go "on stage." Only because we had shared the experience of selecting the pieces for the program, and of rehearsing our lines and actions could we show genuine concern for each other's performances.

Through our annual performances we have developed a coherent feeling of pride in the accomplishment of carrying out such a unique family tradition. Every year at the conclusion of our program I can sense the love and affection we've gained for each other because of the tradition. Last year more than 100 guests witnessed the event that has managed to bring my family closer together. As we perform we can share this love, not only with each other but also with the audience of friends and relatives.

Each year at the conclusion of our program we pack up our props and costumes until next Christmas, but the closeness we shared will always stay with us.

Review

'Madness' Album Filled with Commercialism

by MAT GLEASON

I once liked the group Madness. Their debut album, "One Step Beyond," ranks as an all-time great dance album, complete with swirling saxophones, and a punch bass line. Their latest release, "Madness" on Geffen records, is almost the complete opposite of its predecessor. Blatantly commercial, the album has little resemblance to the band's original intrinsic musical style. The group works incessantly at portraying themselves as nutty guys that YOU wanna party with. Comparing this latest album with their debut classic would be like comparing the Ramones to Def Leppard; they sound similar to an untrained ear, but to the fan they are worlds apart.

The album opens with "Our House," a pathetically bland, calculated semi-slick pop tune that has become Madness' first U.S.

hit. Attempting to strike a nostalgic chord in older listeners and a patriotic chord in younger fans, the song merely drags on about a house and the family that dwells in it. So corny is this attempt that one can almost picture a clan of peons sitting around the family fireplace singing "Our House." The rest of the album fails just as miserably, with the exception of "Night Boat to Cairo." This song sounds dreadfully out of place, and it is; the tune was recorded in 1979 but was left off the first album. It is a good song and in dire need of better company, something that just doesn't exist on this album.

I doubt seriously that Madness has conspired to become the slick/sick polished pop band that they seem to be. They are on a major record label and are at the mercy of a company accountant, the one who knows what will sell. Major record companies

are without any consciences in their pursuit of dollars over art. One cannot blame any of the seven band members for their original intentions were good, that is, before they were sucked up into the conglomerate Top-40 trash compactor. The record industry has coercively brainwashed most people to believe that the albums that sell the most are the best. If you agree with this premise, then remember that you are calling the soundtrack to "Saturday Night Fever" the best album in the history of music. The British band Madness has shown that success does not kill a star.

Most stars have already been drowned in the vast sea of commercialism, a sea that envelopes nearly every newly signed band. It goes to show us all that the music industry is controlled not by the fans, but by the bank statement.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks to Trip Supporters

To the Editor:

We the CVA III, would like to express our gratitude to those who helped in making out trip to Appalachia possible. A sincere thank you to Sr. Mary Ann and Lynn Luzum, who organized and planned the trip, Larry, who supplied lun-

ches, Sr. Ramona, who made cookies to snack on, past CVA'ers, and all those who supported us. You helped to make our trip a beautiful experience!

Mary Lynch

Santa Claus: Man or Myth

by JACQUI PAUWELS and KATIE JACOBSON

Every year around December 25, we hear about the same guy - Santa Claus. He's always there and always has been. But what do we really know about the guy? He's overweight, wears red and hangs out in shopping malls giving candy to small children, enticing them to sit on his lap.

Really! What is this guy? Man or myth?

Sheila Hoff, Clarke senior, claims to have heard rumors that Santa Claus doesn't exist, but adamantly defends the old chap, "Of course there is a Santa Claus," she says. "If there wasn't, think of all the elves that would be in the unemployment

lines today."

How else could he afford such an expensive operation? It's doubtful he makes much money having his picture taken with snot-nosed tots drooling on him.

And what about those reindeer? Why hasn't anyone reported him to the Human Society? "I think making those deer fly around the world in one night, hauling all those toys, is definitely grounds for cruelty towards animals," says junior Maretta Mistretta.

And how does he manage to keep warm over his long journey? Is it really a thermos of hot cocoa Mrs. Claus packs for him every Christmas Eve? We doubt it. For that matter, why is he jolly all the time?

It adds up - the twinkling (glazed?) eyes, red nose and beer gut.



How does he get across borders so easily? Who would issue a passport to a man with so many aliases?

(Saint Nick, Father Christmas, Kris Kringle - really!) What about customs. How does he claim his possessions at each border? Then there's the issue of invading air space. He better watch it - the Soviets are awfully touchy about that.

They say he knows if you've been bad or good. "How can he?" asks junior Shari Mears. "And who gave him the right to make such moral judgements? Isn't that an invasion of privacy?"

The guy's motives are questionable. Do you really want a character like this running one of your major holidays?

Graduates Cheated

To the Editor:

Why do December graduates receive no recognition of their achievement from Clarke College and still have to pay a \$50 graduation fee? I realize that they can come back in May if they wish, but why can't they pay then? Instead they leave Clarke after four years with no senior show, baccalaureate mass, graduation ceremony or any of the traditional senior graduation events. As more students graduate in December shouldn't Clarke be a little less cheap and a little less rude?

Kay Winter, '84

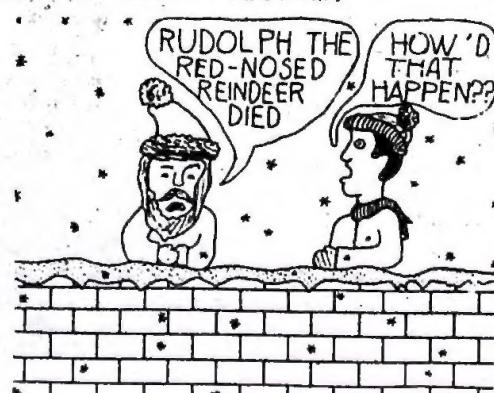
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Clarke Courier

Editor: Tammy Hutson
Associate editor: Laura Smith
Art editor: Cheryl Ebersol
Photo editor: Kathy O'Neill
Writers: Rod Ahmann, Carrie Rilley, Jean Mihalic, John Sullivan, Terri Wallerich, Patty Robarge, Mauna Ryan, Denise Habel, Renee Soto, Katie Jacobson
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Study Tips

by TERRI WALLERICH

The week every college student dreads is here. If you've waited until now to start preparing now for finals, don't despair. Although it's better to start early, it's never too late to start.

The main things to remember to thwart off stress, according to Nancy Leber, guidance counselor, is to eat properly and take time to exercise and relax with people who know their material. Support groups are also helpful if there's a lot of reading to do, so you can divide up the reading and discuss it.

Outlining your notes and writing notes in the margins of your books will help your studying, Leber says. Reading notes into a tape recorder and hearing it back another day will help you learn the material, according to Leber.

Leber also suggests talking with teachers to find out what the tests are going to cover, obtaining a study guide when possible, and talking to students who have had the class before.

Those taking essay tests should pay attention to the verb in the question and only describe, explain or illustrate as it asks, says Leber, to avoid rambling.

In taking the finals, students should focus on doing the best they can, rather than accomplishing a letter grade, Leber advised.

Leber says not to stay up all night and cram right up to the last minute because it could cause a mental block. "If they can get some sleep during the pressure, they should," said Leber.

According to Leber, students should put finals into perspective. Finals should be a learning tool. They're not worth undermining your confidence.

Leber reminds students to relax and have a positive attitude. "Students should minimize the thought that finals are a 'do or die' situation - there is no final exam worth your health."

For future exams, Leber says to start out at the beginning of the semester by organizing and outlining your notes, understanding the teacher's psychological outlook, and taking a real notice of types of questions asked on tests throughout the semester.

Students having trouble with their finals should remember to take advantage of the resource people on campus and their instructor for help.

RENEE SOTO
This year has a presidential election not only in our country, but also in our college. Although we must wait until November for the national election, our college's new president will be elected today. Yesterday, five members of the Board of Trustees, Robert Wahlert, Francis O'Conner, Carol Klauder, Helen Garvey, BVM, and Mary McCauley, BVM, were on the nominating committee that cast their votes to determine who will occupy Clarke's "oval office."

Four candidates were interviewed and their resumes, references and telephone interviews. Peter Clifford, Dr. SC, Catherine Dunn, BVM, Dr. Charles Hepburn and Dr. Thomas Kurywanski were invited to Clarke. All four finalists attended meetings, social functions and informal discussions with members of the college.

Gallery 1550

High Schoolers

TERRI WALLERICH

The Dubuque High School Art Exhibit, which is on display in Gallery 1550 through Feb. 2, contains 301 artworks from the students of Wahlert, Hempstead and Senior High.

The center of attention is a life-size plastic sculpture of a woman hanging up clothes made by the Wahlert. The clothesline is equipped

Merry
Christmasfrom the
Courier Staff

"Courier" staffer, Ken Katuin, constructed a drafting table for the Publications Lab III. The table was made by a student in the drafting class. The table is made of wood and has a glass top. It is a very sturdy and well-made table.